

ALBERT AND LAVINIA AUSTIN HOUSE
308 North Pinckney Street
Madison
Dane County
Wisconsin

HABS No. WI-299

HABS
WIS
13-MAD
2-

PHOTOGRAPHS

HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Building Survey
National Park Service
Rocky Mountain Regional Office
Department on the Interior
P. O. Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225

United States Department of the Interior

Historic American Buildings Survey

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION

Architectural Data Form

STATE COUNTY TOWN OR VICINITY

Wisconsin

Dane County

City of Madison

HISTORIC NAME OF STRUCTURE (INCLUDE SOURCE FOR NAME)

HABS NO.

Albert and Lavinia Austin house (original owners; tax assessment records
and city directories)

WI-299

SECONDARY OR COMMON NAMES OF STRUCTURE

Not Applicable

COMPLETE ADDRESS (DESCRIBE LOCATION FOR RURAL SITES)

308 North Pinckney Street

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE SOURCE)

ARCHITECT(S) (INCLUDE SOURCE)

1901 (tax assessment records)

Not Known

SIGNIFICANCE (ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL, INCLUDE ORIGINAL USE OF STRUCTURE)

This two-and-one-half-story frame Queen Anne residence was built in 1901 for Albert E.
Austin and his family. Austin moved to Madison from rural Hazel Green, Wisconsin in
1901 to enter the employ of F. A. Gill's shoe store. He later purchased the (continued)

STYLE (IF APPROPRIATE)

Queen Anne

MATERIAL OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS)

Clapboard over balloon frame; sandstone foundation

SHAPE AND DIMENSIONS OF STRUCTURE (SKETCHED FLOOR PLANS ON SEPARATE PAGES ARE ACCEPTABLE)

Approximately 58' x 29'; the shape is basically rectangular with projecting bay windows
and porches. Please see separate floor plans.

EXTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE

Hipped roof with asphalt shingles; narrow clapboard siding; tall dormers with full classi-
cal pediments with swags and fluted pilasters; wide porch across front with fluted
classical columns on stone piers; polygonal bay windows; denticulated cornice; (continued)

INTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE (DESCRIBE FLOOR PLANS, IF NOT SKETCHED)

Oak staircase (rails and wainscoting have been removed); oak floors in main rooms on
first floor; maple floors in other first floor rooms and all second floor rooms; wide
pine board floors on third floor; oak woodwork in a simple design on first (continued)

MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS WITH DATES

Converted to a two-unit residence in 1929; third floor unit added in late 1940's (building
permit file)

PRESENT CONDITION AND USE

Deteriorated condition; three-unit residence vacant since 1979.

OTHER INFORMATION AS APPROPRIATE

This building will be moved to another lot on the same block and rehabilitated as a three-
unit residence. This is part of a major revitalization project known as the Block 92
Venture, which will be funded by a Community Development Block Grant. Construction is
planned for the Summer of 1985.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION (INCLUDE LISTING ON NATIONAL REGISTER, STATE REGISTERS, ETC.)

x assessment records; Sanborn-Perris maps; city directories; building permit file;
Wisconsin State Journal, May 11, 1925 (obituary for A. E. Austin). Wisconsin (continued)

COMPILER, AFFILIATION

DATE

Katherine Hundt Rankin, Preservation Planner, City of Madison

May 16, 1985

Significance, continued:

business from Gill. In 1915, Austin joined O. S. Jacobson in the Auto Sales Company and was associated with Jacobson until Austin's retirement in 1920. Austin died in 1925. Austin's widow converted her home into a two-unit residence in 1929. She lived in the house until 1940. In the late 1940's an additional unit was built on the third floor. From about 1955 until the building was vacated in 1979 it housed apartments and an office on the second floor. During these years, it was owned by a succession of investors.

The house is a vernacular example of the Queen Anne style, a style that is represented in Madison by many finer examples, including several in the Mansion Hill historic district, of which this property is a part. The house is not in itself of particular historical significance, but it does not contribute to the character of the Mansion Hill historic district, since it was built during the district's period of significance, and since it retains much of its historic appearance, although in a much deteriorated state.

Exterior Features of Note, continued:

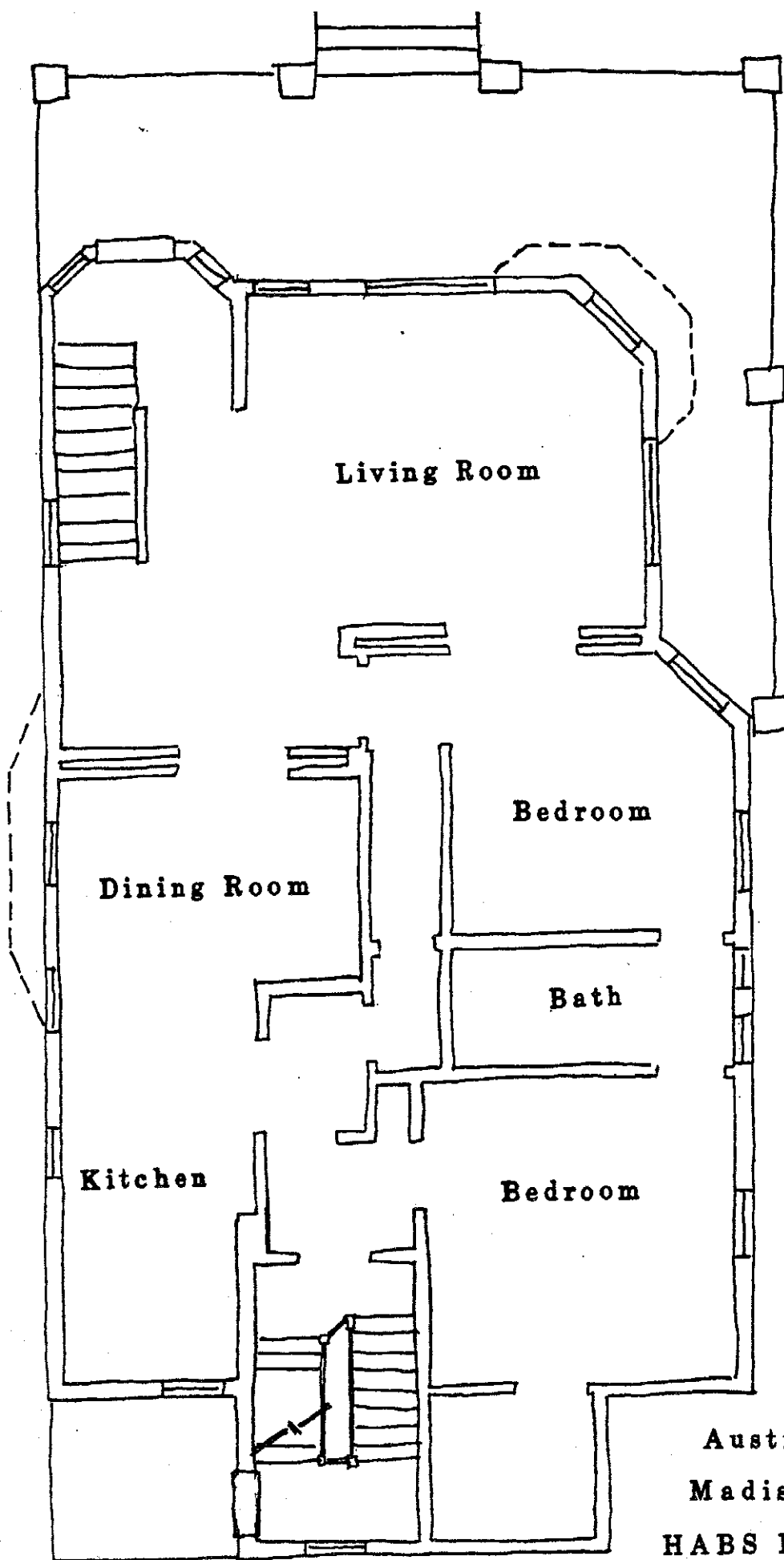
tall double-hung windows; classical oval window with decorative wood keystones on northwest side; upper sash of two windows have Gothic-arched mullions.

Interior Features of Note, continued:

floor; painted woodwork on second and third floors. Paneled wood kitchen cabinets and large ceramic sinks with built-in dripboards on first and second floors date from 1929. Also from 1929 are mosaic tile floors and white ceramic plumbing fixtures in first and second floor bathrooms; clawfoot tub in third floor bathroom. Please see separate floor plans.

Sources of Information, continued:

Inventory of Historic Places, 1974; determined eligible for the National Register as part of the Mansion Hill historic district, September 4, 1984.

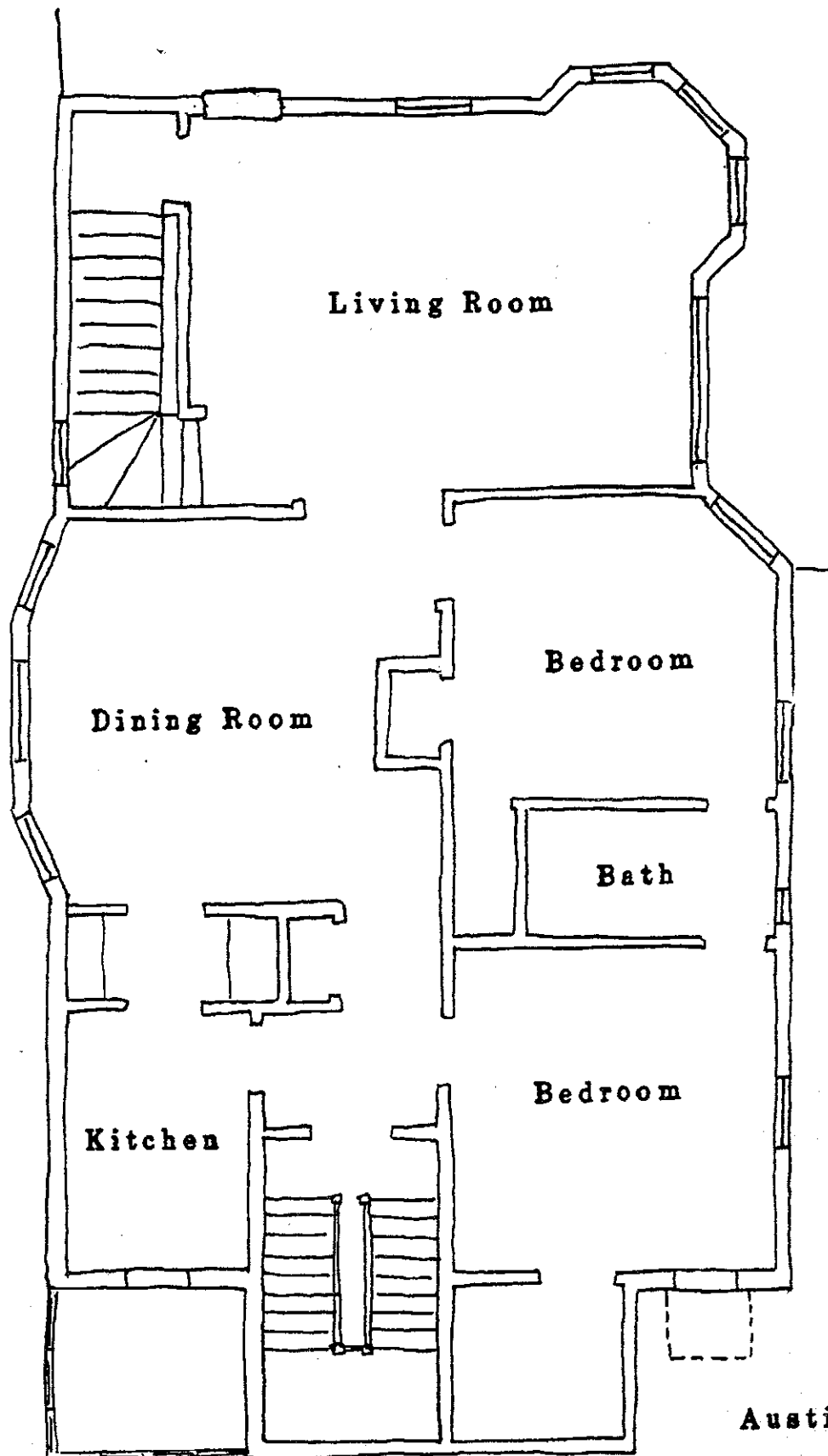


first floor

Austin house
Madison, Wis.
HABS No. WI-299

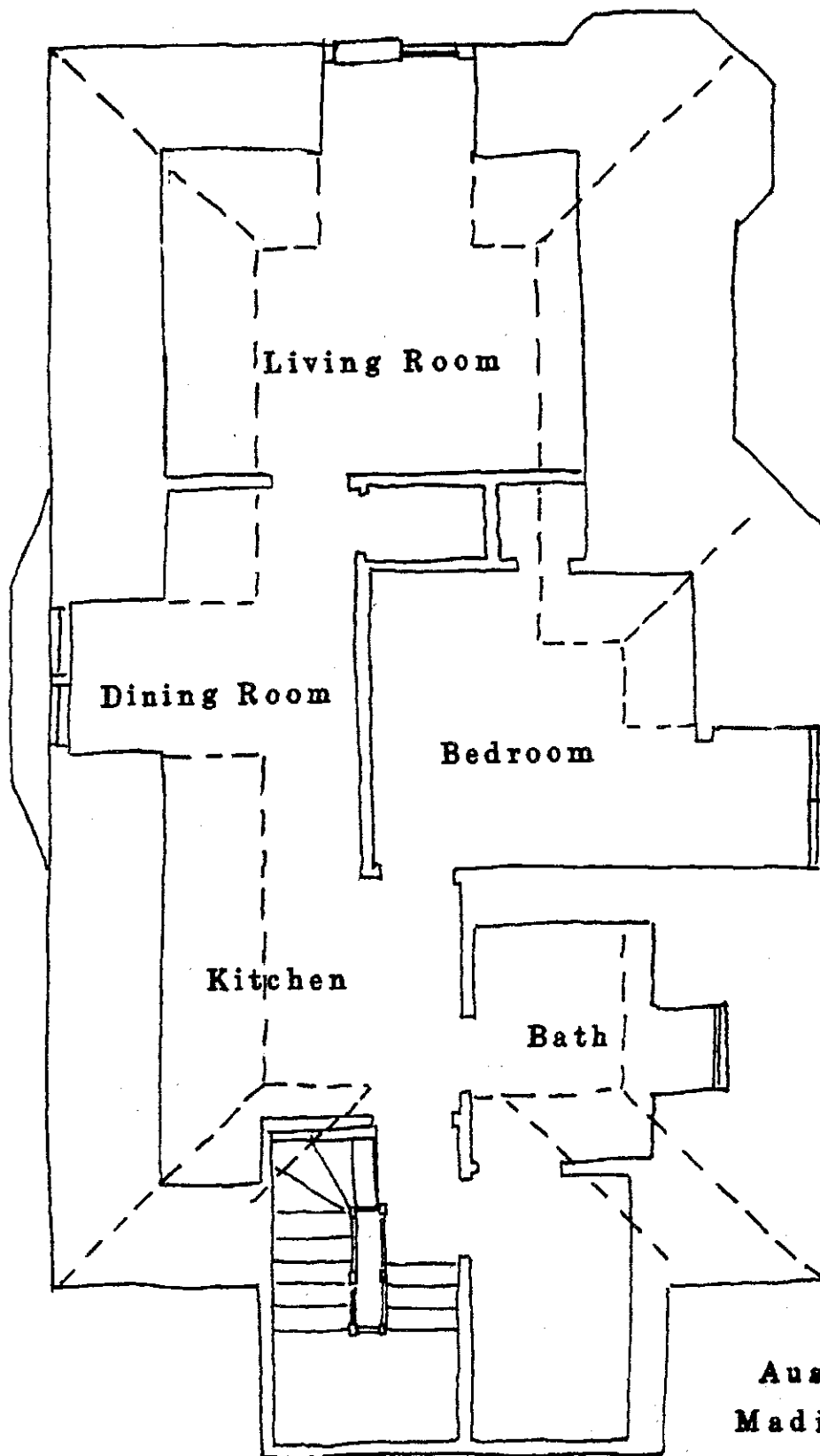
May, 1985

Page 3



second floor

Austin house
Madison, Wis.
HABS No. WI-299
May, 1985
Page 4



third floor

Austin house
Madison, Wis.
HABS No. WI-299
May, 1985
Page 5